

Message Text

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47

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 PC-10 IO-14 AGR-20 INT-08 COME-00

EB-11 IGA-02 DRC-01 /205 W

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R 271017Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

LO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8327

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 1989

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, CD

SUBJ: FAREWELL CALL ON PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE

1. ALTHOUGH THE RANGE OF TOPICS WAS APPROPRIATELY BROAD FOR A FAREWELL CALL, I TOOK THE OCCASION TO RAISE WITH PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE THE NEXT PROBABLE STAGE IN THE EVOLUTION OF OUR AID POSTURE AS IT AFFECTS CHAD. I SAID THAT BECAUSE ALL FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR OUR AID PROJECTS ARE FREELY VOTED BY THE AMERICAN CITIZENS THEMSELVES, THEY ALWAYS WANT TO KNOW HOW AND HOW WELL THESE FUNDS ARE BEING USED. I EXPLAINED THAT THE GREAT AMOUNT OF REPORTING BY NEWSPAPERS AND TELEVISION OF THE PLIGHT OF THE SAHELIAN PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT HAD EVOKED A GENEROUS RESPONSE ON THE PART OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE AND THEY HAD THROUGH THEIR CONGRESS MADE MORE FUNDS AVAILABLE THAN EVEN THEIR ADMINISTRATION HAD REQUESTED OR EXPECTED. UNTIL NOW THIS HAS BEEN RELATIVELY UNCRITICALLY DISCUSSED AMONG AMERICANS, BUT I SAID I BELIEVED WE WERE NOW APPROACHING A MORE NORMAL AND THEREFORE MORE CRITICAL ATTITUDE TOWARD AID, AND THAT AMERICANS WILL NOW

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WANT TO HAVE MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE WAY IN WHICH AID IS BEING

GIVEN AND RECEIVED.

2. ONE OF THE THINGS AMERICANS WILL BE LOOKING FOR IS EVIDENCE THAT THE COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT AND ALL SECTORS OF THOSE SOCIETIES REALLY CARE ENOUGH FOR THEIR OWN PEOPLE AND ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF THE DROUGHT TO MAKE SACRIFICES IN THE AID OF THEIR COUNTRYMEN. I SAID THAT ALTHOUGH I MYSELF WAS AWARE OF MANY SACRIFICES MADE BY HIGH LEVEL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND OTHERS IN THIS SOCIETY THAT THESE WERE NOT EVIDENT TO VISITORS, INCLUDING JOURNALISTS STAYING FOR RATHER SHORT PERIODS OF TIME IN CHAD. II POINTED OUT THAT NO DECISIONS IN OUR DEMOCRACY ARE UNANIMOUS DECISIONS AND THAT THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE OPPOSED TO SUCH FREELY GIVEN ASSISTANCE EVEN TO AFFLICTED PEOPLE LIKE THOSE OF THE SAHEL AND THAT CHAD WOULD BE DOING ITSELF A SERVICE AND WOULD BE SUPPORTING THOSE ELEMENTS IN OUR SOCIETY WHICH FAVOR GENEROUS AID IF THE SACRIFICES WERE MORE READILY APPARENT. I SAID THESE INCLUDED EVIDENCE OF REAL CONCENTRATION ON THE DROUGHT AS A PROBLEM, OBVIOUS SACRIFICES BY OFFICIALS AND CIVIL SERVANTS, MORE INVOLVEMENT OF THE CHADIAN ARMED FORCES IN DROUGHT RELIEF OPERATIONS; AND FINALLY SACRIFICES BY THE VARIOUS COMMERCIAL SECTORS OF THE SOCIETY. I SAID THAT CHADIAN TRANSPORTERS HAD MADE GREAT PROFITS UNTIL NOW ON DROUGHT RELIEF ACTIVITIES AND IT WOULD BE VERY HARD TO EXPLAIN TO THE AMERICAN PUBLIC WHY THEIR OWN SACRIFICES ARE NOT BEING MATCHED BY CHADIANS THEMSELVES.

3. TOMBLBAYE FREQUENTLY NODDED, SMILED AND GAVE EVERY INDICATION THAT HE UNDERSTOOD NOT ONLY THE WORDS BUT THE BASIC MESSAGE. IN PARTING HE THANKED THE EMBASSY AND ME PERSONALLY FOR OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS TO HELP CHAD IN THIS SITUATION.
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